ISSUE 1 OF 5 JUNE 2003 US $2.95/CAN $4.75

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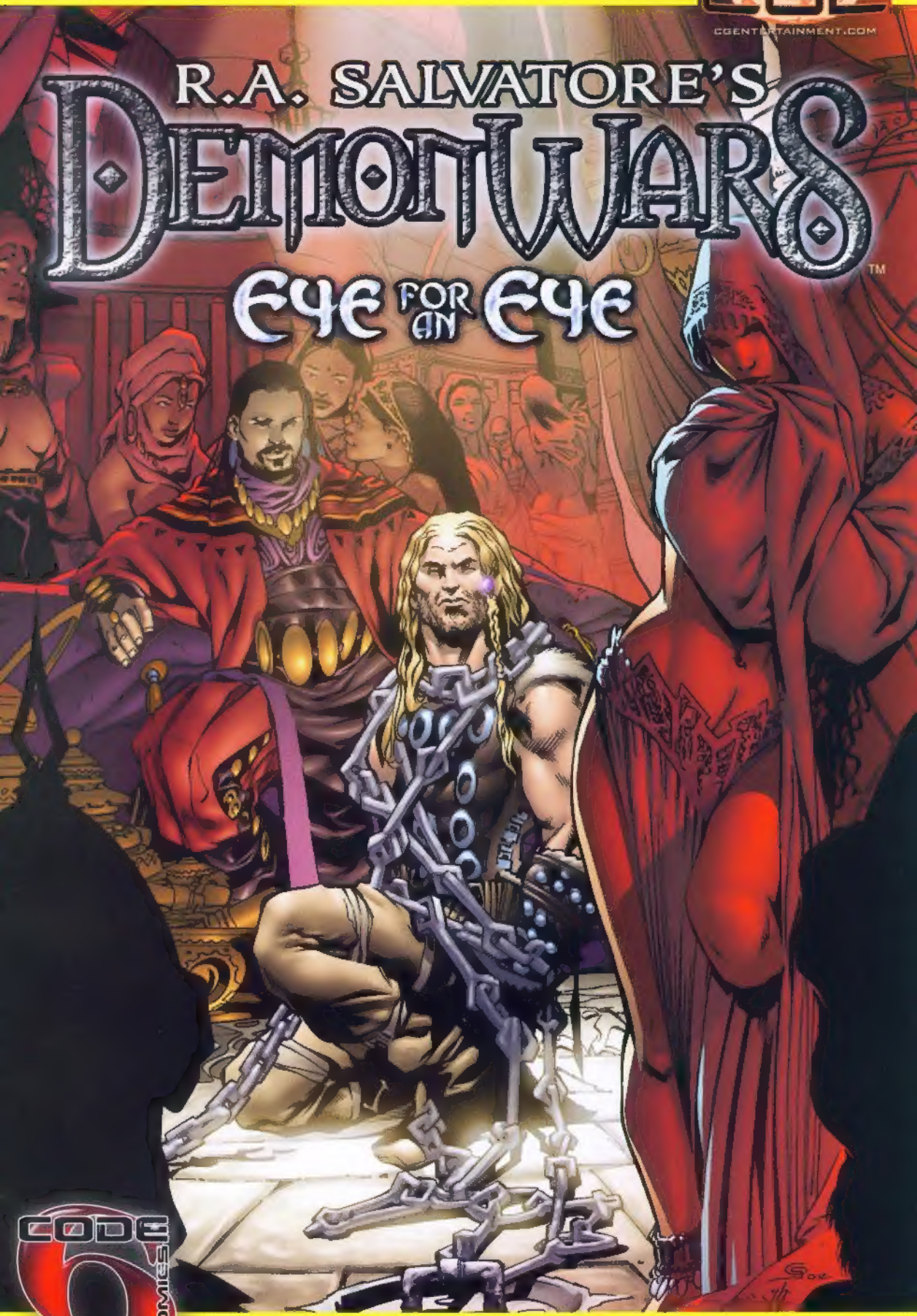
R.A. SALVATORE'S DEMON WARS™

EYE FOR AN EYE



CODE 6 COMICS

R.A. Salvatore Scott Ciencin Greg Tocchini Jon Holdredge Tad Ehrlich

From the Secret History of the Touel'alfar

Corona.

A world of magic. A world of mystery.

From above, magical gemstones rain from the sky once every 200 years. From below, demons and lesser fiends crawl from the bowels of the earth to terrorize mankind. And in the far-off land of Behren, a Ranger lies dead, his murderer unknown and unpunished.

These scrolls recount the tales of **Andacanavar**, a barbarian ranger born in the frozen northlands of Alpinador, but raised and trained in Andur'Blough Inninness, the Valley of Mist, by the Touel'alfar, or elves. A young warrior who has seen less than 25 winters, Andacanavar has already begun to feel the full weight of his role and responsibilities as a ranger. While attempting to unite his superstitious and close-minded people with magic-wielding emissaries of the Abellican order from the kingdom of Honce-the-Bear, Andacanavar experienced love — and loss — for the first time when the adept **Moira** died during his quest to defeat the frost giants of Alpinador and keep the demon-lord of vengeance, **Managarm**, from rising.

Andacanavar now travels far and wide, throughout his homeland and its neighboring nations, seeking monsters to slay, and injustices to set right. Yet, no matter where he runs, the deeds of his past, and the grief he seeks to deny, are always with him. Among the strangest allies Andacanavar has made during his travels is the powrie, or red-cap dwarf, **Grave Mungo**, a clever and crafty fighter who shuns the short-sighted path of his own people and seeks wealth and acceptance in a world that loathes his kind.

What happens when Andacanavar learns that a fellow ranger and friend has been brutally slain in a strange land?

The barbarian sets off looking for justice...or an eye for an eye.

R.A. Salvatore's DemonWars™ Eye For An Eye Vol. 2, Issue 1, JUNE 2003. FIRST PRINTING. Published by Code 6 Comics, LLC. Office of publication: 4023 Tampa Road, Suite 2400, Oldsmar, Florida 34677. Code 6 Comics™ is a subsidiary of CrossGen Publishing, LLC, a subsidiary of CrossGen Entertainment, Inc. The CGE logo™, the Code 6 Comics logo™, Code 6 Comics™ and Code 6™ are Trademark and Copyright 2003 CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC. R.A. Salvatore's DemonWars™ and all characters and images are Trademark and Copyright 2003 CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC and R.A. Salvatore. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. The stories, incidents and characters in this publication are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reproduced in any form without the express written consent of Code 6 Comics, LLC. PRINTED IN CANADA.

ALPINADOR.
THEN.
IT NEVER ENDS, CHAMPION...
...SLAY ME AND ANOTHER DEVOURER WILL RISE TO PICK CLEAN THE BONES OF YOUR PEOPLE.
TRUE ENOUGH, CREATURE.
BUT, THEN...

...THERE WILL *ALWAYS* BE ONE LIKE ME TO STOP FOUL THINGS LIKE YOU.

HEH. WELL PLAYED, HERO.
YOU'VE SAVED THE INNOCENTS.
KILLED ANOTHER DEMON. BUT...
...DID YOU KNOW MY KIND HAS A GIFT?
...WHEN WE...DIE...
...WE SEE THE LIVES OF OUR MURDERERS PASS BEFORE US.
I AM WELL PLEASED.
YOU MAY BE A HERO NOW, RANGER...
...BUT ONE DAY YOU WILL BE FALLEN...

BEHREN. NOW.
"...FALLEN INTO A DARKNESS FROM WHICH I PRAY THERE MAY BE NO RETURN."
BEHRENESE WOMEN ARE ALL UGLY SOWS!
BEHRENESE MEN HAVE PUTTY FOR STONES!
PLEASE, ANDI...LORD CANAVAR...
I'M ANDACANAVAR, YOU GODS'-CURSED SIMPLETON!
FILTHY OUTLANDER!
I AM OF ALPINADORAN BLOOD. YOU PEOPLE AND YOUR BELIEFS ARE A JOKE TO ME!
IGNORANT SCUM.
HE INSULTS OUR PEOPLE AND OUR WAYS!
THERE IS BUT THE CHEZ, THE ONE GOD.
THEY WILL TAKE HIM TO SUFFER THE WRATH OF OUR DIVINE RULER, YATOL MURGAN!
SUMMON THE CHEZHOU-LEI, THE WARRIORS OF OUR GOD!
PLEASE DON'T HURT ME.
I'VE HEARD YOUR TALES. I KNOW YOUR TROUBLES.
GRIEF AND LOSS TOUCH ALL OF US.
IT IS DIFFICULT, I KNOW.

BUT THIS FINE DRINKING ESTABLISHMENT IS ALL I HAVE.
PLEASE, LEAVE *SOMETHING* STANDING!
ESTABLISHMENT?
DRINKING?
THAT'S WHAT THIS PLACE IS?
FROM THE STINK OF IT, I THOUGHT I WAS JUST SUPPOSED TO DROP MY BRITCHES AND *RELIEVE* MYSELF HERE!
GAAH!
ALLOW *ME* TO DEAL WITH THIS GODLESS PIECE OF DUNG.
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO WITH *THAT?*

WHUMPH

WHROOSH

YAAAH!

MOVE ASIDE!
HEH...I RECOGNIZE YOU PEOPLE...
CHEZHOU-LEI WARRIORS. YATOL PRIEST HAND PUPPETS.
GUESS I'M IN FOR IT NOW...
VERMIN.
OUTSIDER.
WERE YOUR KIND NOT SO BENEATH OUR NOTICE, WE WOULD PURGE THIS WORLD OF ALL YOUR INFERIOR RACES.
...THAT WOULD TAKE A WHILE...WE VERMIN MULTIPLY QUICKLY.
BY THE WAY...
THE GOD-VOICE IS A WHELP.
THE YATOL CAN LICK MY HAIRY-
SMACK
INSOLENT SCUM.
TAKE HIM TO OUR LORD...

...HE WILL PAY FOR HIS LOOSE TONGUE OR PERHAPS JUST LOSE IT.
QUIETLY NOW. I JUST HEARD A FEW OF THE CHEZHOU-LEI GUARDS.
DON'T WANT ANY OF THEM INTERRUPTING US.
WHERE IS IT YOU ARE FROM AGAIN, FILTHY DOG?
SINCE YOU ASKED SO KINDLY...
...A LITTLE PLACE CALLED THE WEATHERED ISLES. I'M SURE YOU DON'T KNOW IT.
I'M SURE YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO.
IN OUR LAND, THE GOD-VOICE TAKES MORTAL FORM. THROUGH HIM, OUR GOD, CHEZ, SPEAKS TO US.
ALWAYS A GOOD THING...

BRAVE MUNGO WOULD BE THE LAST TO DISAGREE.
OUR GOD HAD SAID NOTHING OF YOU OR YOUR KIND.
AND WHY WOULD HE?
FILTHY DOGS LIKE ME AREN'T EXACTLY FIT AND PROPER TABLE TALK FOR DEITIES, NOW ARE THEY?
BUT I'M SURE HE LET SLIP WORD OF THESE AND WHAT THEY CAN DO.
A FEW SIMPLE GEMSTONES, WORTHLESS.
WORTHLESS? I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.
WITH THE RIGHT KNOWLEDGE, STOLEN FROM THE RIGHT ABELLICAN MONASTERIES, BRIBED FROM THE RIGHT GREEDY TONGUES..

...THERE'S ACTUALLY QUITE A LOT THEY CAN DO.
THIS IS... DANGEROUS. AND YOU HAVE MORE?
PLENTY MORE.
THE PEOPLE I REPRESENT WILL PAY A GOODLY AMOUNT TO KEEP THEM FROM THOSE WHO MIGHT MEAN THE GOD-VOICE HARM...
...SUCH AS FOUL SCUM LIKE YOURSELF FROM OTHER LANDS
YOU COULD ROLL AROUND IN A BED FULL OF THEM OR CRAM THEM UP YOUR BACKSIDES FOR ALL I CARE
WHAT?
I SAID, AS A LOWLY, FOUL, SCUMMY DOG, I BOW TO YOUR WISDOM...

"...AND AWAIT YOUR *PLEASURE*."
SAGARA, YOU ARE MY *FAVORITE*, SAGARA.
YOUR *CREATIVITY*... KNOWS NO BOUNDS.
YATOL MURGAN, I SIMPLY RESPOND TO WHAT IS NEEDED.
...WHAT IS *DESIRED*

IT IS TIME, MY LORD.
AWAY, TROLLOP.
MY GUEST IS ARRIVING
OF COURSE, MY LORD.
QUICKLY, FOOLS.
THIS IS ONE GUEST I DO NOT WISH TO KEEP WAITING.

STEP LIVELY, VERMIN
ONE WRONG WORD TO OUR LORD AND THE WALLS WILL BE AWASH WITH YOUR BLOOD
REMOVE THE BARBARIAN'S CHAINS
MY LORD?
AND RETURN HIS WEAPONS
BUT YATOL, THE FILTHY CREATURE HAS STRENGTH, AND WHO KNOWS WHERE IT'S BEEN-
TAKE YOUR LEAVE AND DO NOT QUESTION ME AGAIN
MY APOLOGIES FOR THE INCONVENIENCE AND ANY MISUNDERSTANDING ON OUR PART
.MIGHT JUST SNAP YOUR NECK
YOU MIGHT. I DOUBT IT
ALL THIS MAD BEHAVIOR, BUT NOT ONCE DO YOU DRAW YOUR SWORD
HOW OUT OF CONTROL COULD YOU REALLY BE?

ANDACANAVAR I AM YATOL MURGAN.
YOU KNOW ME
I KNOW OF YOU. I THINK I KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE.
YOU'VE BEEN PETITIONING MY OFFICE FOR AN AUDIENCE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS NOW, EVER SINCE YOU CAME TO COSINNIDA ON THE TRAIL OF A MURDERER.
A FRIEND OF YOURS IS DEAD. YOU WANT JUSTICE.
OR REVENGE. I'M A BIT UNCLEAR ON WHICH.
THE DEAD MAN WAS A FELLOW RANGER, TRAINED BY THE ELVES, LIKE YOURSELF. HE PROTECTED THIS LAND WELL.
ONE COULD SAY HE DIED POORLY, BUT HE WAS, AFTER ALL, ONLY A MORTAL MAN.
LIKE ANY OF US.
HE FOUGHT A GREAT BATTLE AND RETURNED TO THIS CITY DRAINED
HE WAS SET UPON BY THIEVES. CUTTHROATS
ELEVEN MEN. EVEN AT HIS LOWEST EBB, IT TOOK THAT MANY TO BRING DOWN KRORAN THE RANGER.
THEIR AMBUSH WAS COWARDLY. TWO WIELDED BOWS AND ARROWS FROM ROOFTOPS.
THREE OTHERS SHOT HIM FROM A DISTANCE. ALL THIS BEFORE THEY CAME WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE OF HIS BLADE.
THERE IS NO SHAME IN HIS DEATH. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE FARED ANY BETTER

YOU KNOW ALL THIS HOW?
A WOMAN. A *WITNESS*
I'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH HER
SHE *VANISHED*. I'M SORRY TO SAY SHE WAS AFRAID THAT ONE OF THESE CUTTHROATS MIGHT HAVE FAMILY OR FRIENDS WHO WOULD COME AFTER HER.
SO YOU SEE, THE PRETENSE IS NOT NECESSARY YOUR DRUNK AND DISORDERLY DISPLAY
I .. LOST SOMEONE.
.. HER NAME WAS *MOIRA*
A WOMAN. OF COURSE
WELL.
FEEL FREE TO TAKE ONE OR TWO...
...OR *THREE*.
. OF THESE
WHICHEVER YOU CHOOSE IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME
AND IT MIGHT PROVIDE *COMFORT* ON YOUR JOURNEY HOME. A SLEEP AND A FORGETTING ALL OF THAT.
I WOULD LEAVE– *IF* I HAD THE ANSWER TO *ONE* QUESTION.
AND THAT IS?
WHY ARE YOU *LYING* TO ME, YATOL?
..
BARBARIAN CANDOR. *MISGUIDED*, BUT AMUSING. I THINK I SHOULD–

YATOL MURGAN... I HAVE COME FOR YOUR LIFE
AH
FILTH! YOU DARE ATTACK THE YATOL IN HIS OWN TEMPLE?
YOU WILL DIE SLOWLY FOR THIS AFFRONT TO OUR LORD!
UNLIKE ALL OF YOU

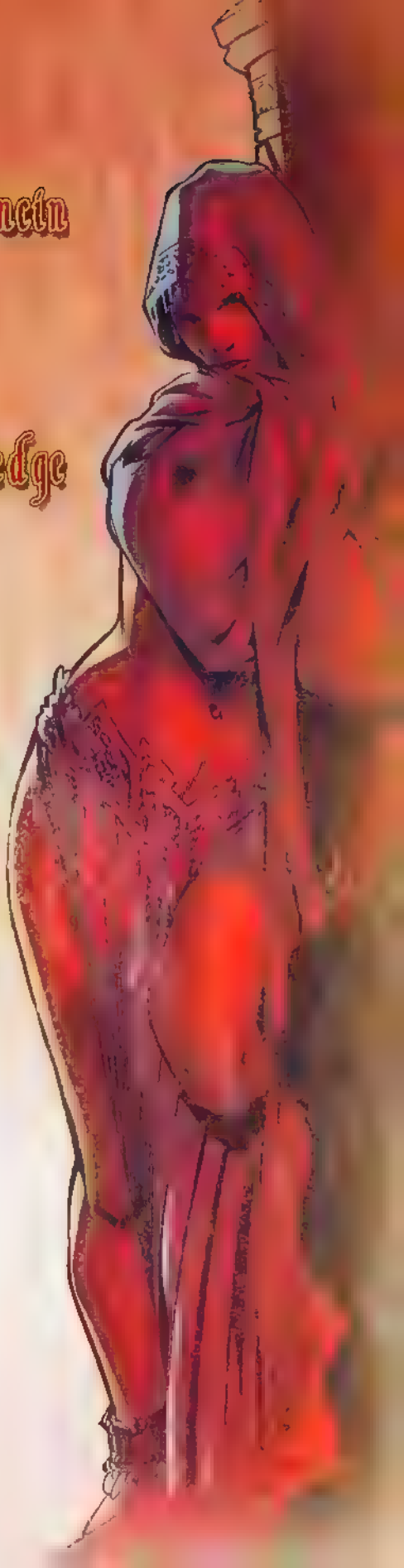
I COULD INTERVENE
BUT THEN I WON'T FIND OUT WHAT I WANT TO KNOW
NO!
GUGH!
THOUGHT SO

CHANG
CHANG
Huh
GONE
.AND NOT THE ONLY ONE
SAGARA.

IMPATIENT FOOL ..
...YOU NEARLY COST US EVERYTHING, KETSUO
YOU'RE FORTUNATE I'M THE FORGIVING KIND

THE BARBARIAN HAS LEFT THOUGH I BELIEVE OUR TROUBLES WITH HIM HAVE ONLY JUST BEGUN
SAGARA ALSO BEARS WATCHING N ANY CASE.
WE ARE ALONE
COME, NOW.
WHAT IS IT YOU TRULY WISH TO SAY?
MY. . BEING. . HAS BEEN SOILED.
THE MAN WHO ATTACKED ME WAS A JHESTA TU. ONE OF THOSE I WARNED YOU ABOUT
HE CARRIED NO GEMSTONE. BUT I COULD FEEL THE SORCEROUS ENERGIES WITHIN HIM
YOU SAID THEY WERE PEACEFUL
YOU SAID THEY WOULD REMAIN UNINVOLVED UNTIL WE WERE READY TO SLAUGHTER THEM ALL
I ALSO SAID THE SOONER THEIR KIND WAS REMOVED FROM THE FACE OF BEHREN, THE BETTER
WELL, THEN.

I THINK IT'S TIME.
BY THIS HOUR TOMORROW, THE WAR WILL HAVE BEGUN.
to be CONTINUED!



R.A. Salvatore
Creator

Scott Ciencin
Writer

Greg Tocchini
Penciler

Jon Holdredge
Inker

Jad Ehrlich
Colorist

Oscar Gongora
Letterer

Ron Marz
Editor

Jan M. Feller
Managing Editor

Denise Ciencin
Creative Consulting

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CrossGen Intellectual Property, LLC
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"Wonderfully accessible...(with) impressive combat scenes and an intriguing cast of characters!"
— TheFourthRail.com

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From the Secret History of the Touel'alfar

"Justice or vengeance? Which do you seek?"

This question has been posed to the barbarian ranger **Andacanavar** and it is one he cannot answer. Far from his frozen northland of Alpinador, Andacanavar prowls the mysterious and exotic reaches of Cosinnida, a city in the desert land of Behren, seeking the killer of a fellow Ranger. Yet Andacanavar is not himself. Ever since the death of **Moira**, an Abellican magic user with whom he was falling in love, his grief has led him into a kind of madness that may make him vulnerable to the influence of the very demons he has devoted his life to destroying.

After gaining an audience with **Yatol Murgan**, Cosinnida's religious and political leader, Andacanavar was informed by the Yatol that the murderers of his fellow Ranger had been found and punished. Yet the story did not add up. Before Andacanavar could question the Yatol further, the Yatol was attacked by **Ketsuo**, a masked assassin displaying the unique magical fighting skills of a Jhesta Tu mystic. With reason to suspect that **Sagara**, Murgan's favorite harem girl, was more than she seemed, Andacanavar held back at a critical moment in the fight, forcing Sagara to reveal her own considerable fighting abilities — reminiscent of the training given to Abellican spies — to save the Yatol. The assassin fled, and Sagara vanished.

Now Andacanavar continues his search for truth in this mysterious land. He does not know that Yatol Murgan has joined with a powerful demon djinn named **Nur-al-Din**, or that the Yatol has wiped the normally peaceful Jhesta Tu from existence for reasons that are entirely his own. Nor is Andacanavar aware that **Grave Mungo**, the bloody red-cap powrie, is in Cosinnida selling a bag of stolen magical Abellican gemstones.

But these are things Andacanavar *must* find out. His life depends on it.

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YOU'RE WELCOME HERE, OF COURSE. BUT...

HE..
HE'S QUITE BUSY AT THE MOMENT
HE'LL SEE ME.
OUR LORD ONLY RECENTLY ACQUIRED THIS ESTABLISHMENT. I DON'T THINK HE WOULD KNOW-
THE WOMAN I'M LOOKING FOR WOULD BE A NEW ADDITION

BUT I CAN TELL YOU, WE HAVEN'T HIRED ANY SERVERS RECENTLY. NONE AT ALL
I'LL HEAR THAT FROM *HIM*
AT LEAST LET ME *ANNOUNCE* YOU, PLEASE!
NO. .
I'M GOOD AT MAKING ENTRANCES
RZZZP

WHAT?

YOU!
BY THE SHARPENED TEETH OF THE GREAT OLD ONES HOW FAR MUST I GO TO AVOID THIS ONE?
LADIES...
START WHATEVER YOU WANT WITHOUT ME.
THAT WAY WHEN I GET BACK IT'LL BE FOR THE INTERESTING PARTS
WHY DO THEY ALWAYS RUN?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN BEHREN, POWRIE?
HAVING A BETTER TIME THAN YOU, IT SEEMS!

SECRET PANEL. DARKENED PASSAGE. DEATHTRAPS FOR THE TALL AND NOT SO BRIGHT. WHICH ONE NOW
WRETCHED LITTLE SCAVENGER...
GOD'S TEETH. I NEED TO LEARN THE LAYOUT OF THIS PLACE.
I WILL HAVE ANSWERS.
THIS IS MY HOME WHY WERE YOU CHASING ME?
WHY DID YOU RUN?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHAT IS IT YOU HAVE TO HIDE?
HEH.
MORE THAN YOU, I'D WAGER IF YOU WANT ME TO DROP THE CLOTH, WE CAN COMPARE AND FIND OUT.
LEAVE ME MY ILLUSIONS.
AS YOU WILL.
I'M LOOKING FOR A GIRL NAMED SAGARA. SHE WAS YATOL MURGAN'S FAVORITE, UNTIL RECENTLY.
SHE WOULD HAVE ARRIVED SOME TIME DURING THE NIGHT, OR THIS MORNING, AND I'D WAGER SHE IS..
...HIGHLY SKILLED
WORKING FOR THE YATOL, BARBARIAN?

CHANG
HEH. I'LL TAKE THAT AS A "NO."
WELL, YOU'RE NOT SO SQUEAKY CLEAN ANY MORE, ARE YOU, RANGER?
GOOD! MAYBE SOME NIGHT WE CAN GO OUT DRINKING AND INVITE A FEW OF MY LADIES AND-
ALL I WANT FROM YOU IS INFORMATION I'VE BEEN TO EVERY BROTHEL IN THIS CITY AND NO ONE'S SEEN HER.
TELL ME AGAIN WHY THIS IS MY PROBLEM?
YOU'RE HERE. I'M HERE. WE'RE BOTH OUTSIDERS.
THE LAST OUTSIDER WHO CAME TO THIS CITY WAS MY FRIEND - AND HE WAS KILLED. THIS WOMAN KNOWS SOMETHING.

I'VE SEEN NO HINTS OF TROUBLE... OTHER THAN THE *USUAL*
I THINK YOU'VE BEEN BURIED SO DEEP IN *WHATEVER* IT IS THAT'S BUILT YOUR LITTLE FORTUNE.
...THAT YOU WOULDN'T BE AWARE OF REAL TROUBLE UNTIL IT *BIT* YOU ON THE *BACKSIDE*.
BITING'S EXTRA NOTE TO SELF START CHARGING
RANGER, IF THAT'S TRUE, I'M *CLEARLY* NOT THE MAN TO HELP YOU.
SO...
WHAT OF *ELENE?*
WE WERE HAPPY FOR A TIME. SHE HAS AN APPETITE FOR *NEW EXPERIENCES*.
I KEPT HER WELL SATISFIED, NATURALLY, BUT I THINK WHEN SHE PICTURED THE MAN OF HER DREAMS, SHE WAS EXPECTING SOMEONE *TALLER*
NOT TO WORRY. I'VE FOUND LOVE... OR SOMETHING CLOSE ENOUGH...HERE.
I'M WATCHING YOU..
WELL, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, WE CAN AT LEAST MAKE YOU COMFORTABLE WHILE YOU DO SO.
THERE *IS* AN EXTRA FEE, OF COURSE.
GRRR
FOOL.
IN *THIS* LAND..

"...EVERYONE IS BEING WATCHED."
PRICELESS ABELLICAN GEMSTONES CAPABLE OF GREAT MAGIC SUDDENLY APPEAR IN THE HANDS OF THIS LAND'S WORST SCUM...
.. RIGHT AFTER YOU SHOW UP, LITTLE MAN. AND RIGHT AFTER THAT, YOU HAVE THE MEANS TO BUY A PLACE LIKE THIS.
YOU AND I HAVE BUSINESS, POWRIE. BUT FIRST, THE BARBARIAN-
AH.
ONE GIRL LIKE THE YATOL DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH..
IF THIS SAGARA WERE HERE WE'D HAVE FOUND HER
NO ONE ESCAPES OUR NOTICE.

AND, IN SUMMATION, IT IS MY FINDING..
.THAT THE *JHESTA TU* POSE NO THREAT
YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT THERE *IS* AN ENCAMPMENT OF JHESTA TU MYSTICS IN THE HILLS NEAR OUR BORDERS..
...BEINGS WHO POSSESS THE SAME SKILLS AS THE *ASSASSIN* WHO TRIED TO CLAIM MY LIFE JUST LAST NIGHT. .
..YET *NO ACTION* SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM?
YES, *YATOL*. THAT IS MY CONCLUSION

THE JHESTA TU DO NOT INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN MATTERS SUCH AS THESE
IT IS MY CONCLUSION THAT WHOMEVER ATTACKED YOU LAST NIGHT EITHER *MIMICKED* THE ACTS OF A JHESTA TU IN ORDER TO CAST SUSPICION ON THESE PEOPLE
OR THE ASSASSIN WAS *ONCE* A MEMBER OF THE JHESTA TU AND IS *NO LONGER* ASSOCIATED WITH THEM
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, *YOU* ONCE TROD THEIR PATH, YATOL AND SO YOU MUST BE AWARE-

YIERGHH!
YATOL MURGAN. YOU WISHED FOR A PUPPET AMONG THE CHEZHOU-LEI...
HEAR HOW I MAKE YOUR WORDS COME FROM HIS LIPS...
...AS THEY SHALL FROM THIS MOMENT FORWARD, WHETHER I AM WITH HIM OR NOT.
...YOU... YOU MUST BE AWARE THAT THE JHESTA TU MEAN TO DESTROY YOU.
I WILL TELL ALL OF THEIR AGGRESSIVE ACTS AND THEIR PLANS TO WAGE WAR AGAINST US.
EXCELLENT
THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR
READY THE TROOPS.

"...FOR SOON WE RIDE AGAINST THE JHESTA TU."
KETSUO, MY GOOD FRIEND!
I HAVE FOUND SOMETHING YOU WERE TRYING TO KEEP HIDDEN.
MY MASK

GIVE THAT BACK!
COME AND TAKE IT.
YOU WEAR THE ROBES OF THE JHESTA TU, YOUR FLESH IS MARKED, AS IS MINE, BUT I DO NOT KNOW YOU.
WHO REALLY KNOWS ANYONE IN THIS WORLD?
THAT MASK BELONGS TO ME!
AH, THE MASK YOU WORE WHEN YOU ATTACKED YATOL MURGAN.
THE JHESTA TU WISH TO WELCOME YOU BACK. YOU KNOW THIS.
BUT ACTIONS LIKE THOSE YOU TOOK LAST NIGHT-
YOU KNOW WHAT MURGAN HAS DONE TO ME, WHAT HE'S DONE TO THOSE I CARE ABOUT, WHAT HE'S PLANNING TO DO...
NO ONE CAN KEEP THEIR TRUE FACE HIDDEN FOREVER. REMEMBER THAT, KETSUO...

". REMEMBER IT..."
" AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF *EXPOSURE* FOR US ALL..."
..BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AGAIN."
WE WILL SEE...

"WE WILL SEE."
I. .AH I WILL BE *RETIRING* FOR THE EVENING. MADAM LILIAH
IF ANY DIFFICULTIES ARISE WITH THE CLIENTELE OR OUR STAFF, *HANDLE* THEM HOWEVER YOU SEE FIT
AS YOU *WISH*, LORD MUNGO
AL- R:GHT THEN PICK .P MY AX REMEMBER WH CH OF THESE SECRET PASSAGES GETS ME TO THE STREET ννNOT GED
AND 1M GOOD TO
. GO?

AND HERE I WAS HOPING TO PERSUADE YOU TO STAY
MY NAME IS SAGARA I KNOW WE HAVEN'T BEEN FORMALLY INTRODUCED, BUT I WAS HOPING I COULD SPEAK TO YOU..
...ABOUT A JOB.
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?
I'M QUITE RESOURCEFUL AND INVENTIVE. WHEN I WANT A THING, I CAN USUALLY FIND A WAY TO GET IT.
WHAT I WANTED TONIGHT WAS TO IMPRESS YOU WITH MY DESIRE FOR A POSITION.
HUH
YOU MAY KEEP THIS ROOM FOR TONIGHT WHILE I MULL OVER YOUR OFFER
WE'LL TALK AGAIN IN THE MORNING
SO ANDACANAVAR WAS RIGHT SHE DID PLAN ON COMING HERE
HEH
LIKE I'M GOING TO TELL THE PAIN IN THE BACKSIDE BARBARIAN ANY THING

EASILY MANIPULATED LITTLE FOOL. I KNEW I COULD FRIGHTEN YOU OFF.
YOU CAN COME OUT NOW, ANDACANAVAR.
I WAS VERY WELL AWARE OF YOU FOLLOWING ME THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT INTO THIS ESTABLISHMENT.
YOU KNOW, I LET YOU GET AHEAD OF ME AND PLACE YOURSELF IN THIS CHAMBER
AND YOU WANTED TO BE FOUND.
GOOD.
OF COURSE WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW IS THAT I WAS IN THIS ROOM EARLIER
SO I COULD BE PREPARED FOR THIS MOMENT
GUH!
SHNNK
IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT?

I HAVE REASON TO THINK YOU'RE A SPY, SAGARA.
A DEEP COVER AGENT PLANTED HERE - WHO KNOWS HOW LONG AGO - BY THE ABELLICANS
IF I'M A SPY, WHY ASK ME QUESTIONS?
I'M A LIAR BY TRADE YOU'LL NEVER GET A STRAIGHT ANSWER
I QUESTION YOUR CONVICTION
..I THINK YOU WANT TO TALK
I THINK YOU WANT TO TELL ME WHO REALLY MURDERED MY FRIEND
BUT, AT THE END OF THE DAY, YOU WANT TO BE FORCED TO DO IT
THAT WAY, YOU CAN TELL YOURSELF YOU'VE DONE YOUR DUTY WELL. YOUR CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR AND-

OOF!
YOU KNOW NOTHING.
YOU'LL DIE KNOWING NOTHING
YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE TO LEAVE. YOU SHOULD HAVE TAKEN IT
THIS IS ON YOUR HEAD.
..WHICH WILL SOON BE ROLLING ON THE GROUND
HOLD...

I HAVE USES FOR THIS ONE
to be CONTINUED!

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R.A. SALVATORE'S DEMON WARS

EYE FOR AN EYE

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R.A. Salvatore Scott Ciencin Greg Tocchini Andrew Pepoy Tad Ehrlich

From the Secret History of the Touel'alfar

Spy or ally?

Staring into the alluring but frighteningly cold eyes of **Sagara**, a harem girl with the training, knowledge, and fighting skills associated with deep undercover Abellican operatives, the barbarian Ranger **Andacanavar** asks himself this very question — as Sagara's blades close about his neck.

A fellow Ranger has been murdered, and Andacanavar, seeking justice, or possibly revenge, has traveled to the exotic land of Behren in search of a killer. He has met with **Yatol Murgan**, the religious and political ruler of Cosinnida, and been told that, after performing an act of great heroism, his friend was brought down by cowardly brigands who emptied quivers of arrows into the Ranger from a distance. Murgan had the brigands gathered up and executed, but Andacanavar is not satisfied. He believes there is more to the story, and that Murgan's favorite companion, Sagara, knows far more than she is telling. Her sudden disappearance after an attempt on Murgan's life by a masked assassin is just one reason for his suspicion.

Meanwhile, the red-cap dwarf **Grave Mungo** has also come to Behren to make his fortune. He has a bag of stolen Abellican gemstones charged with powerful magic, items he is selling to the highest, and most dangerous, bidders.

Ketsuo, the masked assassin, is a former member of the Jhesta Tu, an order of mystics who can perform miraculous, magical acts without gemstones. He knows about ,and wishes to stop] the unholy crusade Murgan wishes to launch against his former fellows. Ketsuo is also Sagara's lover. Backed by the might of the demon djinn **Nur-al-Din**, Murgan chooses the cover of night to launch his attack, unaware that in the heart of his city, Andacanavar and Sagara have come face to face with the deadly djinn!

R.A. Salvatore's DemonWars: Eye For An Eye
Tampa Road, Suite 200, Oldsmar, Florida
Code 3 Comics logo ... Code 3 Comics ... Code 3 ... Cro... ty, LLC. R.A. Salvatore's DemonWars ... R.A. S...ore. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. The stories ... ers ... living ... ion or artwork used for review ... PRINTED IN CANADA.

THEY MASS NEAR OUR CITY OF COSINNIDA, PERFORMING *HERETICAL RITUALS*, GAINING *STRANGE POWERS* TO USE AGAINST US.
THEY HAVE ATTEMPTED TO *MURDER* YATOL MURGAN
TONIGHT WE RIDE AGAINST THE *JHESTA TU!*
EXCELLENT. MY FRIEND YOU BEAR THE MARK OF *NUR AL-DIN* WELL
NO ONE WOULD EVER GUESS THAT YOUR EVERY WORD IS A *LIE*, THAT YOU ARE MY PUPPET
THE ENCHANTMENT OF A *DEMON DJINN* FORCING YOU TO TELL YOUR WARRIORS EXACTLY WHAT I WANT THEM TO HEAR
YES, IT'S GOOD YATOL MURGAN.

¡FOR TONIGHT, WE BRING *DEATH* TO OUR ENEMIES!
I HAVE LONG WAITED FOR THIS MOMENT, MY FAITHFUL. THE JINESTA TU ARE A *PLAGUE* ON THIS LAND, AND TONIGHT, WE SHALL -
WAIT.
¿WHO *IS* THAT?
DAMN

YATOL MURGAN!
WHY, YATOL TAHER, I WASN'T NOTIFIED THAT YOU WOULD BE VISITING
AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS MAY NOT BE THE BEST TIME—
I SERVE THE GOD-VOICE, WHO SOME MIGHT CONSIDER A WHELP
HOW COULD ONE WHO HAS SEEN ONLY TWENTY WINTERS POSSIBLY KNOW WHAT'S BEST?
BUT HIS WILL IS TO BE OBEYED, AND HE HAS DECREED THAT NO ACTION SHALL BE TAKEN AGAINST THE JHESTA TU WITHOUT HIS LEAVE
STAND DOWN

THE ATTACK SHALL *NOT* COMMENCE
COME YATOL TAHER
...I'M SURE WE HAVE *MUCH* TO DISCUSS
INDEED

"I HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS OF MANY UNUSUAL THINGS IN YOUR CITY"
I AM NUR-AL-DIN
A DEMON DJINN
A GENIE
A GRANTER OF WISHES
PERHAPS
FOR A PRICE
WHAT IS IT YOU DESIRE, ANDACANAVAR? OR YOU, SAGARA?

ALL I WANT WITH YOU IS WHAT I WOULD HAVE OF ALL DEMONS..
..YOUR DEATH!
REALLY, OUTLANDER
YOU HARDLY EVEN KNOW ME..

...OR WHAT I WANT
NO ONE TOUCHES ME UNLESS I WISH IT, RANGER
BUT I CAN TOUCH ANYONE WHENEVER I PLEASE.
GUH!
AND THIS PLEASES ME GREATLY!
UGGH.
ARE YOU GOING TO KILL HIM?
AS MUCH AS I AM CURIOUS ABOUT THE THINGS THAT MIGHT PLEASE YOU...

...NO.
AS I SAID, I HAVE *USES* FOR THIS ONE.
HE IS NOW MY *SLAVE*
WHAT ABOUT ME?
I'D WAGER YOU DIDN'T RUN WHEN YOU HAD THE *CHANCE* BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN SOMEHOW BEND *MY POWER* TO *YOUR WILL*.
I ADMIRE YOUR CONFIDENCE...
...BUT YOU'RE *WRONG*
AS YOU MAY HAVE GUESSED, I AM FAR MORE INTERESTED IN FULFILLING MY *OWN* DESIRES THAN THOSE OF OTHERS.
BUT THERE *IS* YATOL MURGAN TO CONSIDER. *HE* IS THE ONE WHO BROUGHT ME HERE, AND I OWE HIM SEVERAL MORE FAVORS.
ANDACANAVAR, MY NEW SLAVE, WILL GO FAR IN HELPING ME TO TURN THE YATOL'S WISHES INTO A REALITY.

BUT IT IS DRAINING TO CONTROL MORE THAN A FEW STRONG-WILLED TYPES LIKE THIS BARBARIAN – OR A SEASONED SPY LIKE YOU - AT A TIME
YOU ARE ALREADY BOUND TO A COURSE OF ACTION THAT IS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TO US...
...SO I SUGGEST THAT YOU FIND OUT WHERE THE DWARF IS HIDING THE MAGICAL GEMSTONES HE STOLE FROM THE ABELLICANS...
. THEN TAKE THE STONES AND LEAVE THIS COUNTRY.
IN RETURN, I WILL SEE THAT YOUR LOVER, KETSUO, DOES NOT DIE WITH THE JHESTA TU HE WILL BE FREE TO LEAVE WITH YOU
HE'LL NEVER AGREE TO THAT
TALKING HIM INTO THE PLAN IS YOUR PROBLEM. ALL I WANT TO KNOW IS IF WE HAVE A DEAL...
...OR IF I WILL HAVE TO MAKE YOU DO WHAT I WANT?
I VALUE MY FREEDOM. .

I WILL SEE THAT IT IS DONE.
A FORTUNE TO BE MADE AND I LET THAT DAMN WOMAN SAGARA MAKE ME LATE
HEH.
OLD SNAKE FACE MUST HAVE BEEN PRETTY PLEASED WITH THE LAST GEMSTONES I SOLD HIM.
BOUGHT A BORDELLO WITH THE MONEY FROM THAT DEAL.
WHAT SHOULD I INVEST IN WITH WHAT I MAKE FROM THIS LITTLE TRANSACTION, I WONDER...
NOT THE FUTURE, CERTAINLY
WHOOSH
THWACK
AGH!

SCA
REACHING FOR MORE OF YOUR MAGICAL GEMSTONES TO USE AGAINST US?
MY NECK SOME KIND OF
MY AXE AT TACK
THE GEMSTONES WOULD HAVE BEEN A BETTER DeA
THE POISON IS FAST ACTING
SOON, YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO MOVE AT ALL. THEN WE WILL TAKE YOU SOMEWHERE COMFORTABLE
COMFORTABLE FOR US, IN ANY CASE...
.AND WE WILL BRING YOU PAIN MORE INTENSE THAN YOU HAVE EVER DREAMED POSSIBLE ..
DON T COUNT ON IT HAD TO L STEN TO YOU SPEAK TWICE NOW
UNTIL YOU TELL US WHERE YOU'VE HIDDEN THE OTHER STONES.
AFTER ALL WHY SHOULD WE SPEND OUR HARD-EARNED MONEY WHEN WE CAN SIMPLY TAKE WHAT WE WANT?
GREEDY FOOLS
WHO THE

YAGHH!
FWSH
WHO
WHO ARE YOU?
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!

MY NAME IS KETSUO.
INTERESTING, HOW FEW PEOPLE SIMPLY LOOK UP
WHERE ARE THEY?
FIND THEM! FIND THEM!
WHAT WHAT DO YOU...
I WANT THE SAME THING THEY WANT. THE MAGICAL GEMSTONES.
UNLIKE MY COMPETITORS I'M WILLING TO MAKE AN HONEST DEAL
I WILL HEAL YOU...
...THEN YOU CAN CONSIDER YOUR LIFE TO BE MY DOWN PAYMENT.

S...IS SOMEONE THERE?
BOURKAN?
BOURKAN, MY GUARDSMAN. S THAT YOU?
BOURKAN?

WHAT IS HAPPENING HERE?
DAMMAR?
GA...A?
YOU NEVER SHOULD HAVE COME HERE

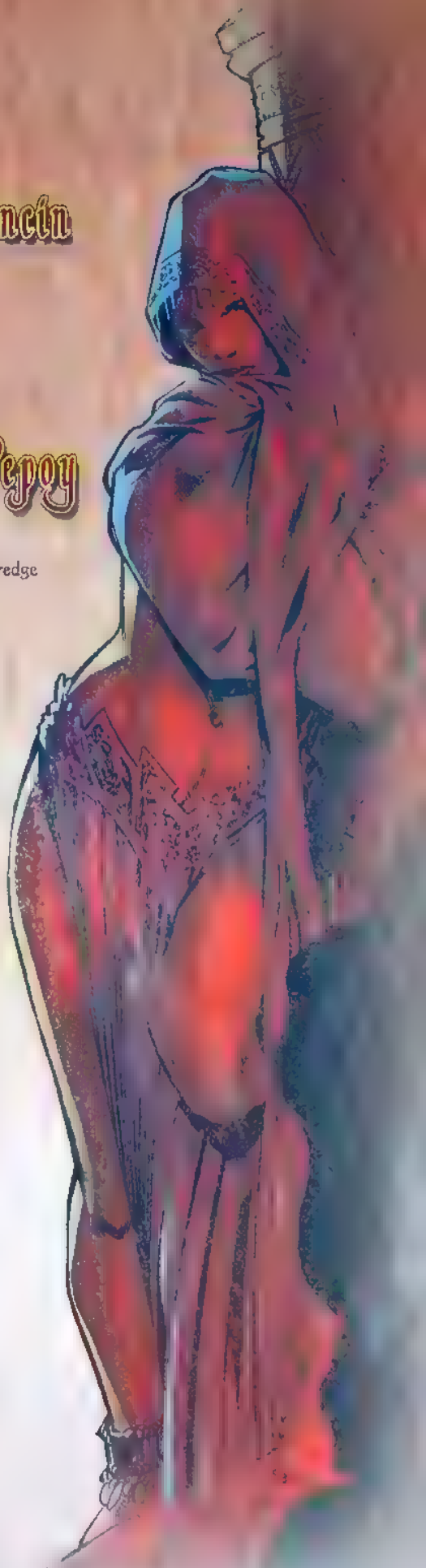
I'M SURE I HEARD SOMETHING -
YATOL TAHER!
THE BARBARIAN KILLED HIM!
BY ORDER OF MY ALLIES, THE JHESTA TU
ALL YATOLS MUST DIE!

THAT WAY LEADS TO YATOL MURGAN'S CHAMBER! WE MUST STOP HIM!
EASILY MANIPULATED FOOLS.

THE MAGIC OF NUR-AL-DIN MAKES PRACTICALLY ALL THINGS POSS BLE
A SIMPLE DISGUISE LIKE THIS
IS NOTHING FOR ONE SUCH AS MYSELF, ALLIED AS I AM TO THE DEMON DJINN.

ARISE, YOU PITIFUL WRETCH.
I SAID ARISE!
HWNF
THMP THMP
MY WARRIORS SEEK TO BREAK THE DOOR DOWN. THEY FEAR EVEN NOW THAT YOU ARE TAKING MY LIFE.
JUST AS THEY BELIEVE YOU TOOK THE LIFE OF YATOL TAHER

KRAH
YATOL MURGAN!
I SUBDUED THE BARBARIAN, BUT NOT BEFORE HE CONFESSED TO KILLING YATOL TAHER
BIND HIM FOR JUDGMENT AND SEE THAT HE DOES NOT ESCAPE.
FIRST HE WILL PAY FOR THIS CRIME THEN WE WILL BRING JUSTICE-AND RIGHTEOUS VENGEANCE-TO HIS MASTERS...
.THE JHESTA TU
CONTINUED



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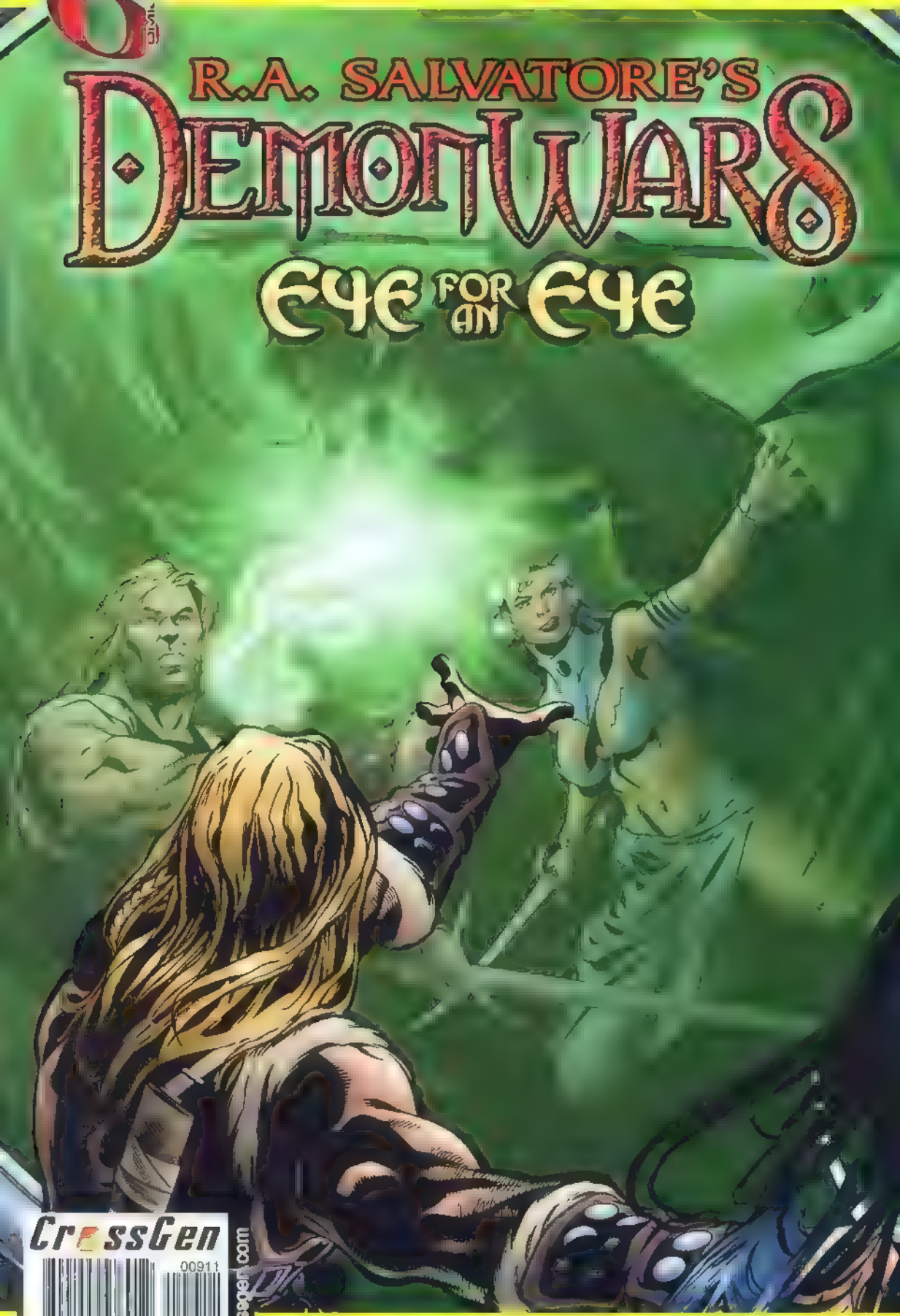

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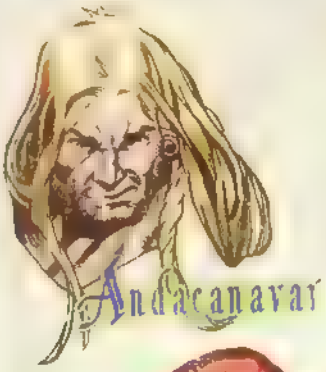

The barbarian Ranger **Andacanavar** has traveled far from the frozen northlands of Alpinador to the sweltering desert country of Behren in search of a fellow Ranger's murderer. Once a proud and stalwart hero, Andacanavar is a shell of a man. Devastated by the loss of the Abellican mage **Moira**, a young woman with whom he had fallen in love, he recklessly makes an enemy of **Yatol Murgan**, the political and spiritual leader of the Behrenese city where he conducts his investigation. Defeated in battle by **Nur-al-Din**, the demon djinn bound to Murgan in a mysterious pact, Andacanavar is now in the custody of the Yatol's warriors, about to pay with his life for a murder committed by the Yatol himself.

Elsewhere, the powrie, or bloody redcap dwarf, **Grave Mungo** has been betrayed and poisoned by the black market traders who have been paying him a fortune for the magical Abellican gemstones he stole. The former Ihesta Tu mystic **Ketsuo**, who previously attempted to assassinate Yatol Murgan, rescued the powrie from the ambush and promises to save Grave's life in return for the gemstones. Unbeknownst to Ketsuo, his lover, **Sagara**, an Abellican spy who had infiltrated Murgan's harem to complete a mission of her own, has made a deal to save herself by procuring the gemstones for Nur-al-Din.

Wheels turn and desperate and deadly plans unfold as innocents face annihilation and time runs out for the only people who can prevent a DemonWar!

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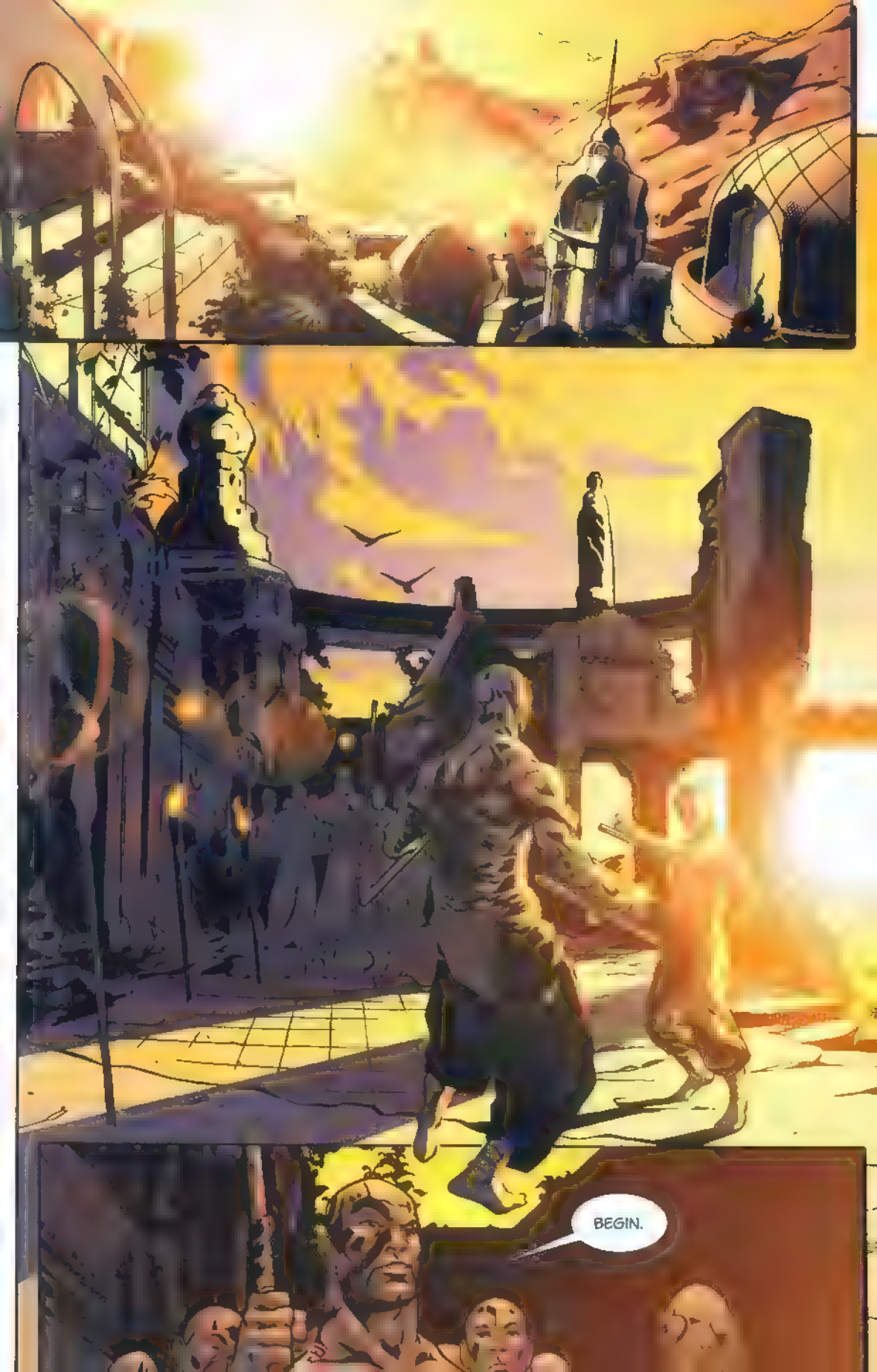

BEGIN.

WOULD YOU CARE FOR A *TRUE* CHALLENGE?

KETSUO.
HAH!
IMPOSSIBLE
NONE CAN MOVE SO FAST
DEFEND THE HONOR OF YOUR TEACHER YOUNG ONES.

YOU SHOULD NOT BE HERE THIS IS A *SACRED* CEREMONY
YES. YOU JHESTA TU COMPETE...
..YOU *BATTLE*
...ONLY TO SEEK ENLIGHTENMENT
THIS MAKES YOU JNLIKE THE REST OF US, WHO FIGHT FOR *SURVIVAL*

THOUGH I AM AN OUTCAST, I HAVE CHALLENGED AND BESTED YOUR GREATEST ACOLYTES
THIS EARNS ME THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD
THEN SPEAK, AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT
I COME WITH NEWS AND A REQUEST
I HAVE WARNED YOU OF YATOL MURGAN'S OBSESSION WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS ORDER
NOW I COME SEEKING AID FOR ONE WHO IS DYING
I HAVE TRIED--AND FAILED--TO CURE HIM ON MY OWN.
AND I BEAR WORD OF A SECOND, AND POSSIBLY GREATER THREAT.
FOR, WITH THESE SEEMINGLY SIMPLE STONES.

WE WILL *RAZE* THIS PLACE TO ITS *FOUNDATIONS*

..AND CAUSE *ALL* OF YOU TO SUFFER AS YOU HAVE NEVER DREAMED *POSSIBLE* BEFORE TAKING YOUR WORTHLESS LIVES.

THE OUTLANDER RUNT WHO *OWNS* THIS PLACE HAS SOMETHING I WANT, SOMETHING THAT MIGHT BE *HIDDEN* HERE.

GEMSTONES LIKE THESE

LEAD ME TO THEM-OR HIM--*NOW!*

BUT...LORD MUNGO IS NOT HERE. AND WE KNOW *NOTHING* OF HIS DEALINGS!

UNACCEPTABLE.

LOOK AT ME! *ALL* OF YOU!

ARE YOU WATCHING? IS *EVERYONE* WATCHING?

PLEASE NO

I WANT YOU TO *SEE* WHAT THIS POWER CAN DO TO MORTAL FLESH!

I'VE *ALREADY* SEEN...

. SO WHY NOT SHOW ME SOMETHING NEW?
NO?
ALL RIGHT .

I'LL TRY TO SURPRISE YOU, THEN
YAAGH!
ABELLICAN MAGIC IS FAR FROM UNFAMILIAR TO ME, FOOL.
JUST LIKE THE WAYS TO PROTECT AGAINST IT.

MISTRESS!
BLESS CHEZ, YOU HAVE-
BACK AWAY.
NOW
LISTEN UP, YOU SORRY LOT OF CUTTHROATS AND THIEVES. I'M AFTER THE SAME THING AS YOUR FORMER MASTER
WORK FOR ME AND I'LL SEE THAT EACH OF YOU GETS WHAT HE DESERVES. OTHERWISE.
...I HOPE THE SMELL OF EVEN MORE CHARRED FLESH WON'T OFFEND THE PATRONS OF THIS ESTABLISMENT

GOOD.
THEN LET'S GET STARTED..

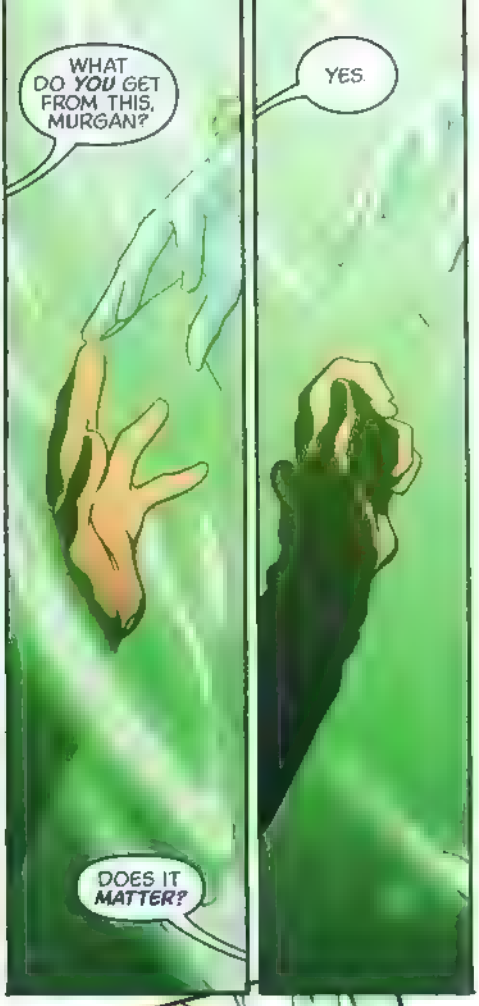
"...THIS PROMISES TO BE AN *EVENTFUL* DAY"
ANDACANAVAR, ONE OF ONLY
...HOW MANY RANGERS ARE *LEFT*, THESE DAYS?
FIRST YOUR FRIEND *KRORAN* IS KILLED BY STREET CRIMINALS, AND NOW *YOU* ARE TO DIE IN DISGRACE FOR THE MURDER OF A YATOL
HNNGH
THESE PEOPLE.. WHY ?
THEY SEE AND HEAR ONLY WHAT I *WISH* THEM TO. MY POWER IS *THAT* GREAT.

AS I WAS SAYING, THIS COULDN'T HAVE BEEN WHAT THE ELVES INTENDED .
.WHEN THEY TOOK YOU AS CHILDREN AND TRAINED YOU TO BE DEFENDERS OF CORONA.
I KNOW THE TRUTH, YATOL MURGAN I SAW -
YIERRGH!
WHAT
WHAT S HAPPEN NG ?
THE HAND OF NUR-AL-DIN IS UPON YOU.
YOU REMEMBER HIM, DON'T YOU?
YES... THE DEMON DJINN.
WHETHER HE IS TRULY PRESENT OR NOT HIS WILL IS UPON YOU.

...KILL YOU...
I DARE SAY NOT. I AM PROTECTED IN WAYS UNSEEN.
YOU ARE VERY STRONG. THAT IS WHY I USED NUR-AL-DIN'S MAGIC AND KILLED YATOL TAHER...
...LOOKING EXACTLY LIKE YOU
HE COULD NOT FORCE YOUR HAND. HOWEVER, WHERE THIS MATTER IS CONCERNED, HE CAN SILENCE YOUR TONGUE...
...AT LEAST LONG ENOUGH FOR MY EXECUTIONERS TO RIP IT OUT
THIS MUST BE DIFFICULT FOR YOU. IT COULD BE MADE EASIER
THIS MIRROR, FORGED IN ANCIENT TIMES, IS A PORTAL. IT ALLOWS PASSAGE FROM THIS LAND TO VERY DISTANT PLACES...
...AND NOT JUST THE DEMON WORLD IN WHICH I FOUND NUR-AL-DIN.

IF ONE *WISHES*, THE MIRROR ALLOWS PASSAGE BETWEEN THE WORLDS OF THE *LIVING* AND THE *DEAD*.
THERE *IS* SOMETHING YOU WANT. SOMETHING THAT IS PERHAPS, WHAT YOU WISH FOR *MOST*.
NOT *JUSTICE*, NOT *REVENGE*. BUT A PART OF YOURSELF THAT WAS *LOST*.
HER NAME, I BELIEVE YOU SAID, WAS–
MOIRA.
YOU MAY *GO* TO HER YOU MAY BE WITH HER FOREVER. THERE WILL BE NO PAIN. NO *SUFFERING*.
YOU'LL SIMPLY CROSS OVER AND BE WITH HER. THE CARES OF THIS WORLD WILL NO LONGER BE YOURS.
I...
YOU'RE *DONE* WITH THIS LIFE. I KNEW THAT THE MOMENT I LOOKED INTO YOUR EYES.
WHY *LIE* TO ME?
WHY LIE TO *YOURSELF?*

DID *YOU* KILL KRORAN?
YOU *STILL* STRUGGLE.
NO, I DID NOT KILL YOUR FELLOW RANGER NOR DID NUR-AL-DIN, OR *ANY* ACTING UPON MY ORDERS


WHAT DO *YOU* GET FROM THIS, MURGAN?
YES.
DOES IT *MATTER?*

FINE.
I WILL GET YOUR *BODY*, ANDACANAVAR YOUR SOULLESS *SHELL* TO USE AS A MARIONETTE, A TOOL TO FURTHER MY ENDS.
NOW *DECIDE*

ALL RIGHT...

AGH!
I WONDER...
DO YOU SUPPOSE HE MEANT "ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO IT?"
OR, "ALL RIGHT, I'LL DECIDE?"
I SUPPOSE WE'LL NEVER KNOW

THE TIME FOR MASKS AND ILLUSIONS IS OVER, YATOL MURGAN.
MY NAME IS KETSUO. I'M SURE THAT NAME IS FAMILIAR TO YOU.
I PETITIONED THE JHESTA TU FOR HELP
...AND THEY'VE AGREED.
KETSUO, KETSUO...
YES! I HAD YOUR FAMILY TORTURED AND KILLED, DID I NOT?
OR AM I THINKING OF SOMEONE ELSE?

NOW.
FOOL
YOUR ORDER TURNED ITS BACK ON ME...
...SO I FOUND POWER ELSE-WHERE.

FORTUNATELY, I WAS *PREPARED* IN CASE THE BARBARIAN SLIPPED NUR-AL-DIN'S CHAINS OF CONTROL.
TRULY, MY SLAVES, THIS IS ENDING BETTER THAN *EXPECTED*
to be CONTINUED!

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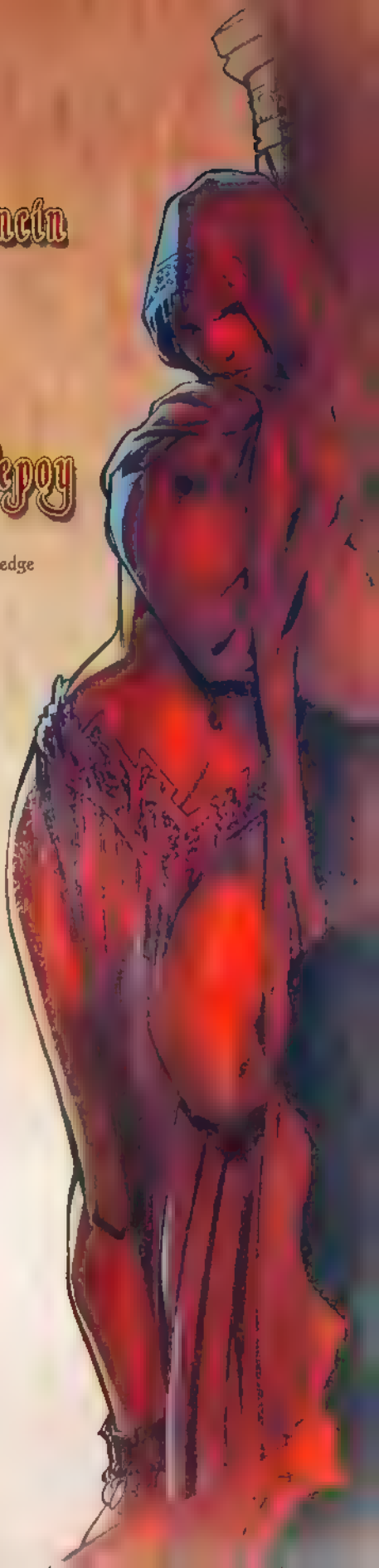

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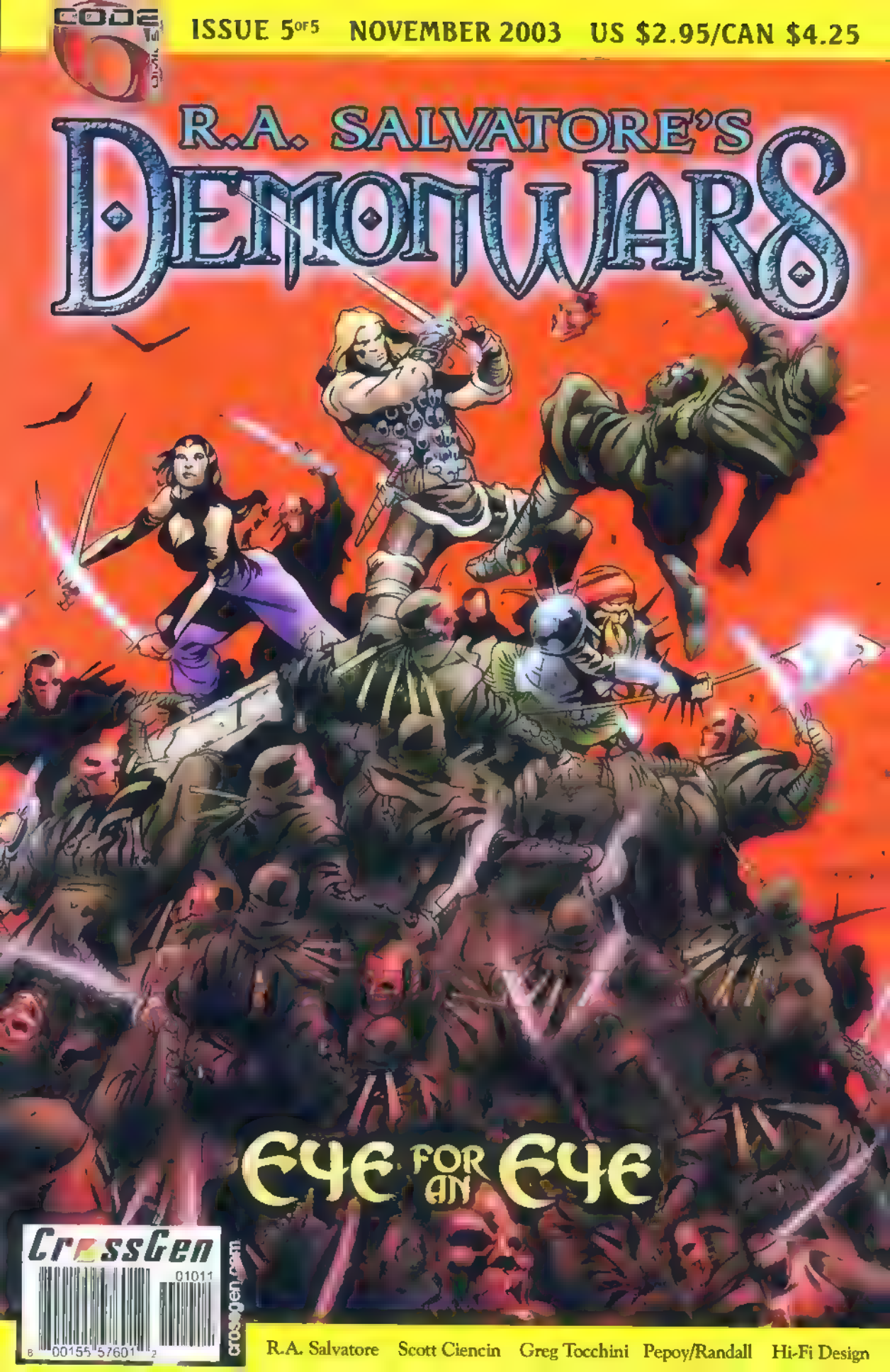

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From the Secret History of the Touel'alfar

Beaten, brutalized, and sentenced to death for a murder he didn't commit, the barbarian Ranger **Andacanavar** stares into the blinding sun rising above the coastal city of Cosinnida on what may prove to be his final day. His chest aches from a wound inflicted when the assassin **Ketsuo** saw Andacanavar move to either accept — or reject — a horrifyingly tempting offer made by **Yatol Murgan**, the political and spiritual ruler of this exotic Behrenese city: in return for use of the northern hero's body, Murgan promised to reunite Andacanavar with the spirit of his love, **Moira**, who fell a year earlier.

This was no idle promise. backed by the supernatural might of **Nur-al-Din**, a demon djinn, Murgan seems to be only a step away from becoming all powerful His ambitions, and his hatred of the **Jhesta Tu**, a mystical order that rejected him in his youth, certainly know no bounds. Murgan has captured not only the Ranger, but also Ketsuo, a former Jhesta Tu who has twice attempted to kill Murgan. Being marched off to die with them are several Jhesta Tu mystics and the red-cap dwarf **Grave Mungo**.

Andacanavar came here seeking the identity of a murderer, for a fellow Ranger was cut down in this city previously. Instead of finding the answers he sought, he has found only avarice and ambition Only one person whom the Ranger has met — and crossed swords with — in his time in this strange land remains at large. But **Sagara**, the woman in question, is an Abellican spy pursuing a treasure trove of mystical gemstones while seeking to complete a secret mission of her own.

All roads have led to this, and if Andacanavar and his companions cannot find a way to escape their fate, they will also be unable to prevent Murgan from launching his jihad, and perhaps plunging the whole of the magical world of Corona into a darksome and final **DemonWar**.

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"BEHOLD.
"THE RANGER ANDACANAVAR, MURDERER OF YATOL TAHER. .
". AND HIS ALLIES, KETSUO AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HERETIC JHESTA TU ORDER
"BEHOLD AS JUSTICE CLOSES ON THE OUTSIDERS. ."

, FOR TODAY, THE *BLADES* OF THE CHEZHOU-LEI WILL TASTE THE *BLOOD* OF OUR ENEMIES!

RUMORS ABOUND OF THESE HEATHEN FILTH CONSORTING WITH DEMONS AND USING OTHERWORLDLY MAGICS!
THESE RUMORS ARE TRUE!
FOR THIS REASON, WE HAVE SILENCED THE FOUL MYSTICS.

. BUT THE RANGER, WHO IS NOT A SORCERER, IS FREE TO SPEAK
WELL, BARBARIAN?
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY IN YOUR OWN DEFENSE?
...
NO ONE BUT YOU CAN SEE ME, ANDACANAVAR
YOUR SILENCE MAKES IT CLEAR THAT YOU CAN FEEL MY WILL INSIDE YOU.
I CAN'T MAKE YOU SAY WHAT I WOULD, BUT I CAN KEEP YOU FROM TELLING THE TRUTH
IT IS SILENCE THAT DAMNS YOU.

"...AND KEEPS YOU FROM GAINING EVEN A SINGLE ALLY."
BY CHEZ, THIS CANNOT BE!
YES IT CAN.

YOU DARE?
IT WOULD SEEM SO

KILL HER!

EH?
KLANG
CLICK
THE RED CAP AGAIN.
THE WOMAN FIGHTS WELL, KETSUO. LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE HOLDING OUT ON ME.
I THOUGHT I WAS SUPPOSED TO PROVIDE THE DISTRACTION WHILE YOU FREED YOURSELF.
INDEED, GRAVE MUNGO. SO DID I
I RECOMMEND LEAVING THE BARBARIAN FOR THE BLOODTHIRSTY MOB TO PULL LIMB FROM LIMB.
AT VERY LEAST, THE TASK SHOULD KEEP THE BEHRENESE PEOPLE OFF OUR BACKS LONG ENOUGH SO WE CAN ESCAPE.
TOO LATE
Hmmm. .

LOOK UPON THE FACE OF EVIL!
SEE WHAT THE JHESTA TU HAVE SUMMONED TO DESTROY US ALL!
DESTROY THE CREATURE!
SHOW OUR PEOPLE THAT THE WARRIORS OF CHEZ CAN SURMOUNT ANY EVIL!
FOOLS.
YET THE PEOPLE BELIEVE THIS CHARADE AS THEY WILL WHEN I APPEAR TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF THESE INEFFECTUAL GNATS.
MURGAN'S PLAN SHALL SUCCEED.
AND I SHALL BE REDUCED TO A PAWN
HUMILIATED.
AGAIN

I AM KETSUO. WE MET. YOU TRIED TO KILL ME
I REMEMBER.
THE DJINN'S STRAINING HIS RESOURCES. HE CAN NO LONGER KEEP ME FROM TELLING THE TRUTH.
YES, BUT WHO'S GOING TO LISTEN NOW? SAGARA TOLD ME THAT YATOL MURGAN SUMMONED THAT THING...
...YET HE MAKES HIS PEOPLE BELIEVE WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.
NUR-AL-DIN... THE DEMON DJINN..
WE HAD A BARGAIN, LITTLE ONE. DID YOU BRING WHAT I ASKED.
OR SHOULD I TAKE THE LIFE OF KETSUO, YOUR LOVER, HERE AND NOW?
HAVE THEM!
SHE IS ALLIED TO THE BEAST!
AH
I FEED.
THIS POWER WILL SERVE ME WELL.

I WILL NO LONGER TOUCH THE BARBARIAN'S UNCLEAN BLADE!
I--
NO...
RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE OF COSINNIDA, BEWARE!
IT IS MORE OF THE HERETIC JHESTA TU!
I..I DID NOT THINK THEY WOULD COME.
THEY MUST HAVE BURIED THEMSELVES THERE LAST NIGHT, WHEN THERE WAS NO REASON TO SET GUARDS...
WHEN IT SEEMED THERE WAS NO REASON

WARRIORS FOLLOWING AN UNJUST RULER, YOUR PEOPLE SHOULDN'T FEAR US...
BUT YOU SHOULD!
NUR AL DIN, I COMMAND YOU! USE THE POWER YOU HAVE GAINED AND TAKE CONTROL OF THE MASKED JHESTA TJ!
FORCE THEM TO FIGHT THE VERY PEOPLE THEY CAME HERE TO SAVE
...I...
I OBEY.
YIEEGH!!
DEATH TO THE TRAITOR KETSUO AND HIS ALLIES!
I VOTE WE RUN LIKE HELL.

STAND DOWN, MY LOYAL WARRIORS. LET THE SAVAGES KILL EACH OTHER.
I SHALL DISPATCH THE DEMON, FOR MY POWER IS WITHOUT EQUAL!
KETSUO!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M HELPING YOU AGAIN
SHUT UP AND FIGHT!
YATOL MURGAN!
YES.
COME.

I HAVE SOMETHING OF YOURS I WISH TO GIVE BACK.
YOUR HATRED OF ME IS INTENSE. PERSONAL.
YOU MUST CONSIDER ME RESPONSIBLE FOR DESTROYING SOMETHING VERY PRECIOUS IN YOUR LIFE.
I DON'T REMEMBER YOU AT ALL

YATOL MURGAN, I WILL SEE YOU DEAD FOR THIS!
MORE EMPTY THREATS, HOW TIRESOME.
NUR-AL-DIN, DISPATCH THE BARBARIAN
BUT...MY POWER IS STRAINED TO ITS LIMITS. HIS SWORD IS ELVEN FORGED SILVEREL.
IN MY PRESENT STATE, IT IS DANGEROUS TO ME, I-
YOU ARE MY SLAVE, NUR-AL-DIN!
I HAVE ALLOWED YOU TO ACT AS AN EQUAL BECAUSE OF YOUR RIDICULOUS PRIDE...
..BUT, MAKE NO MISTAKE, YOU ARE BOUND TO ME AND WILL DO AS I TELL YOU!
I...
..I OBEY
YOU WRESTLE OVER KILLING ME, DO YOU?

HERE'S SOMETHING FOR YOUR TROUBLE!
ARGGHH!
YATOL MURGAN, I BELIEVED YOU WERE WORKING WITH THIS CREATURE..
...BUT NOW I SEE HE IS BOUND TO YOU AS YOUR WILLING SLAVE.
WITH YOUR DEATH, I FREE HIM

YOU YOU CAN T HE IS A DEMON HE W LL AY WASTE TO WORLD
IT GOES AGAINST EVERYTH NG YOU BEL EVE AS A RANGER IT
BELIEFS CHANGE.
WE ARE FREE AS WEL
BARBARIAN, YOU GAMBLED WISELY. I HAVE NO INTEREST IN YOUR WORLD.
YATOL MURGAN, I WILL BRING YOU BACK TO LIFE IN MY LAND, WHERE I AM A PRINCE...
...AND YOUR SCREAMS AS I RIP YOU TO PIECES AND STITCH YOU TOGETHER AGAIN AND AGAIN...
FILTH. YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE MY WRATH SO EASILY
I LIVE AGAIN
IMPOSSIBLE
..WILL BE MUSIC FOR MY CHILDREN.
...FOR YOU WILL NEVER AGAIN DIE, NEVER BE FREE...
YOU CAN'T TAKE HIM! NO! I WILL FOLLOW TO A THOUSAND HELLS IF I MUST
NO, KETSUO THIS IS THE ONLY WAY MY MISSION
SAGARA, LET ME GO! MY VENGEANCE.

I THOUGHT
THAT I LOVED YOU?
THINK WHAT YOU LIKE.
I CAME HERE TO FULFILL A PROMISE. THAT'S DONE. NOW I WILL LEAVE
KETSUO, COME BACK TO US.
NO, MY FORMER BROTHERS, I CANNOT
THE NEXT TIME I SEE EITHER OF YOU, IT WILL BE YOUR DEATHS
HE IS LOST
THE GIRL

HOLD.
I CAME TO THIS LAND SEEKING A KILLER. KRORAN, A FRIEND AND FELLOW RANGER LOST HIS LIFE LIKE A DOG IN THESE FILTHY STREETS.
I THINK IT WAS AT YOUR HANDS
AND I MEAN TO MAKE YOU PAY
KRORAN'S LOSS IS NOT THE ONE THAT DRIVES YOU. I CAN...SOOTHE.. YOUR PAIN
YOU HAVE NOTHING I WANT
NOT EVEN THE TRUTH? ABOUT KRORAN..
..AND MOIRA?

...
GO ON.
AS AN ABELLICAN SPY, MY MISSION WAS TO REMOVE YATOL MURGAN...
...AND SEE THAT HE WAS REPLACED BY A YATOL WHO COULD BE CONTROLLED BY THE ABELLICANS.
KRORAN LEARNED WHAT I HAD PLANNED, AND HAD TO BE SILENCED BEFORE HE COULD WARN MURGAN.
WHAT ABOUT MOIRA?
IN THE FORTRESS OF THE FROST GIANTS? SHE DIDN'T SACRIFICE HERSELF. SHE DIDN'T LEAP TO HER DEATH.
SHE WAS PUSHED.
ABBOT GREENE...
HE TALKS IN HIS SLEEP.
SO... WAS THE INFORMATION WORTH MY LIFE?
YES...

"...AND SO MUCH MORE."
FINALLY... AWAY FROM BEHREN.
A FORTUNE MADE, A FORTUNE LOST. I'LL FIND ANOTHER.
GONE AT LAST FROM THIS GODS' CURSED LAND.
GREENE, I WILL HAVE JUSTICE... AND YOUR HEAD ON A PIKE.
AT LEAST I'LL NEVER HAVE TO SEE THAT FOOL BARBARIAN EVER AGAIN.
AND NEVER AGAIN WILL I LAY EYES ON THAT FILTHY RED-CAP POWRIE.
The End

R.A. Salvatore
Creator

Scott Ciencin
Writer

Greg Tocchini
Penciler

Andrew Pepoy &
Ron Randall
Inkers
Cover Inks by Jon Holdredge

Hi-Fi Design
Colors
Cover Colors by Tad Ehrlich

Oscar Gongora
Letterer

Ron Marz
Editor

Jan M. Feller
Managing Editor

Denise Ciencin
Creative Consulting

R.A. Salvatore's DemonWars
returns in March 2004 with
Sea of Skulls

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Senior Vice President Chief Creative Officer • **Gina M. Villa**
Vice President Writing Development • **Barbara Kesel**
Director Ancillary Publishing • **Ian M. Feller**
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Production Designers • **Erin Flanagan & Randy Martin**
Production Assistants • **Marisol Quintana & Ron Domingue**

Grave Mungo

Pencils and colors by Morry Hollowell,
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